

AL-VI-B-257
Midland Drainage Tunnel
Near Railroad Avenue
Midland

1887

Borden Shaft, the oldest shaft mine in the Georges Creek valley, no longer survives. Opened in 1859 by the Borden Mining Company, it was worked until 1889. Mining operations were interrupted in 1872 when a fire destroyed the outside plant which was quickly rebuilt in 1873. Water entering the mine forced it to close in 1889 when even the use of two large Cornish pumps could not alleviate the flooding. The shaft stood idle until 1911 when the Consolidation Coal Company leased it from the Borden Mining Company. Consolidation drained the water with a complex underground drainage system, which included the Midland Drainage Tunnel. [See also AL-V-A-053 Hoffman Drainage Tunnel (completed in 1906), and AL-V-A-273 Allegany Water Ditch (completed in 1881).] The Midland Drainage Tunnel portion, built in 1887, consisted of a 1/10-mile-long tunnel and a 6/10-mile-long ditch which collectively drained the southern end of the Consolidation Coal Company's property.

Kiondike A. V. (1973)
N. Lord (1973) (1973)



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